

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CARACA 06759 200439Z
ACTION ARA-14

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INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 3095

UNCLAS CARACAS 6759

PASS TO: ITA/BED/OED/MEPD

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: BENC, VE
SUBJ: MAJOR PROJECT: RAILROAD

1. THE PRESS HAS ANNOUNCED THAT ING. ALBERTO AGOSTINI, PRESIDENT OF THE VENEZUELAN RAILROAD INSTITUTE (IAAFE) HAS BEEN ASKED BY PRESIDENT PEREZ TO RESIGN HIS POSITION DUE TO SLOW PROGRESS AND IRREGULARITIES IN THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE 77 KILOMETER YARITAGUA-ACARIGUA LINE. EARLIER ON JULY 5, LYON LUCHESSI, THE INSTITUTE'S SECRETARY GENERAL, RESIGNED OVER DISAGREEMENTS WITH AGOSTINI.

2. AGOSTINI AND LUCHESSI WERE THE INSTITUTE MAJOR AND ALMOST ONLY DECISION MAKERS. THEY WERE BOTH DIRECTLY INVOLVED WITH THE CANADIAN-SPANISH CONSORTIUM NEGOTIATIONS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE 700 KILOMETER CIUDAD GUAYANA-SAN JUAN DE LOS MORROS LINE. THESE TWO WERE ALSO DISCUSSING PROJECT MANAGEMENT FOR THIS LINE WITH AT LEAST SEVEN U.S. FIRMS (BECHTEL, PARSONS, PULLMAN STANDARD, MORRISON KNUDSEN

DE LEUW CATHER, LOUIS T. KLAUDER, AND WILLIAM BAKER).

3. INFORMED SOURCES IN THE RAILROAD INSTITUTE BELIEVE THAT ING. ITALO CHAPARRO, DIRECTOR DE SECRETARIA, MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS, WILL SUCCEED AGOSTINI. LUCHESSI HAS BEEN SUCCEEDED BY CESAR RODRIGUEZ FORMER MANAGER OF ASSETS FOR THE INSTITUTE.

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4. ACTION REQUEST: PLEASE PASS THIS INFO TO THOSE U.S. FIRMS INTERESTED IN THE PROJECT MANAGEMENT CONTRACT (PER PARA 2). ALSO PASS TO DAVID DEGIORGIO (215) 896-69.91.
CROWLEY

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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